

CS10 The Beauty and Joy of Computing



**UC Berkeley
Computer Science
Summer Instructor
Ben Chun**

**Lecture #1
Welcome; Abstraction**

2012-06-15



CS10 : YOU'LL LOVE IT!

Watch the student testimonials about CS10, what it means to them, and how it has changed their lives. Inspiring!

inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~cs10/

CS10 in one slide

Big Ideas of Programming

- Abstraction
- Algorithms (2)
- Recursion (2)
- Functions-as-data, λ (2)
- *Programming Paradigms*
- *Concurrency*
- *Distributed Computing*


Beauty and Joy

- "CS Unplugged" activities
- All lab work in pairs
- Two projects in pairs
 - Of your own choice!
- One blog
 - Of your own choice!

Big Ideas of Computing

- HowStuffWorks
 - 3D Graphics
 - Video Games
 - Computational Game Theory
- Research Summaries
 - AI
 - HCI
- Apps that Changed the World
- Social Implications of Computing
- Saving the World with Computing
- How Twitter Works (guest lecture)
- Cloud Computing
- Limits of Computing
- Future of Computing

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Format & Textbooks

Format (14 hrs/wk * 8 wks)





M	Tu	W	Th
Lab		Lab	
Disc		Disc	
Lec	Lec	Lec	Lec

Selected Reading


- Taken from great book ("Blown to Bits" by Abelson, Ledeen & Lewis) + articles + videos
- Current events EVERY DAY (e.g., IBM's Watson vs Jeopardy)

All resources FREE

- Even clickers!







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Peer Instruction

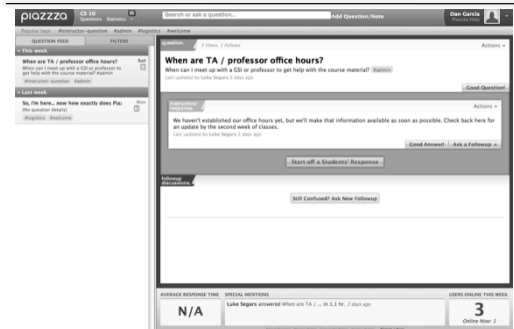
- Increase real-time learning in lecture, test understanding of concepts vs. details
- As we complete a "segment" we ask multiple choice question
 - 1-2 minutes to decide yourself
 - 2 minutes in pairs/triples to reach consensus. Teach others!
 - 2 minute discussion of answers, questions, clarifications




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Piazza for {ask,answer}ing questions




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Grading

- EPA
 - Effort
 - Participation
 - Altruism
- **Not Competitive**
 - Absolute Grading (No Curve, No Limit on A's)
- **Course Historical Average = B/B+**
 - CS Department Average = B-

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Abstraction

- **Detail removal**
 - "The act or process of leaving out of consideration one or more properties of a complex object so as to attend to others."
- **Generalization**
 - "The process of formulating general concepts by abstracting common properties of instances"



Henri Matisse "Naked Blue IV"

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Detail Removal



Automatic Generation of Detail Maps
 Maneesh Agrawala (UCB EECS), among others

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UC Berkeley CS10 "The Beauty and Joy of Computing": Welcome, Abstraction (8)

Detail Removal (in CS10)

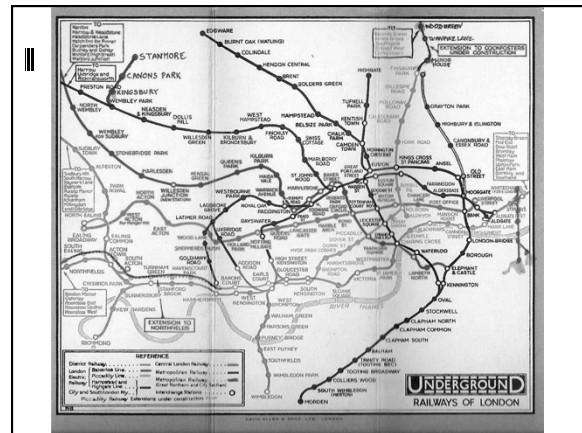
- You'll want to write a project to simulate a real-world situation, or play a game, or ...
- Abstraction is the idea that you focus on the essence, the cleanest way to map the messy real world to one you can build



The London Underground 1928 Map & the 1933 map by Harry Beck.

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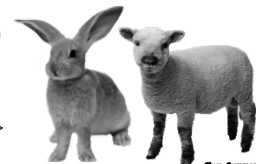


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Generalization Example

- You have a farm with many kinds of animals
- Different food for each
- You have directions that say
 - To feed dog, put dog food in dog dish
 - To feed chicken, put chicken food in chicken dish
 - To feed rabbit, put rabbit food in rabbit dish
 - Etc...
- How could you do better?
 - To feed <animal>, put <animal> food in <animal> dish



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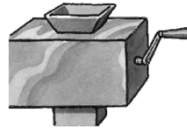
UC Berkeley CS10 "The Beauty and Joy of Computing": Welcome, Abstraction (10)

Generalization (in CS10)

- You are going to learn to write functions, like in math class:

$$y = \sin(x)$$

- You should think about what inputs make sense to use so you don't have to duplicate code



"Function machine" from *Simply Scheme* (Harvey)



Summary

- Abstraction is one of the big ideas of computing and computational thinking
- Think about driving. How many of you know how a car works? How many can drive a car? Abstraction!



Anyone who knows how to drive can operate a hybrid, an electric car, or a diesel car, because they've kept the same Abstraction!

(right pedal faster, left pedal slower)

